Penalty against informers for unsuccessful FERA raids

963. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2018 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th March 1990 and state:

(a) what kind of precautions against wilful, malicious and false informations are taken;

(b) whether these precautions are considered enough and if not, what further precautions Government propose to take in the matter: and

(c) what are the reasons for not imposing penalty against such informers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Before reeciving the informations in respect of FERA violations, Section 58(2) of F.E.R. Act, 1973 is brought to the notice of the informer. It reasd as follows:

"(2) Any persons wilfully and maliciously giving false information and so causing an arrest or a search to be made under this Act shall, upon conviction by court, by punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both."

Under the reward rules applicable to informers, on the income tax side, the informer is required to give an undertaking that if the information given by him is found to be false he would be liable to prosecution. The already existing provisions are considered adequate for deterring the informers from furnishing wrong and false information deliberately.

Removal of Photographic colour Paper and Graphic art films from OGL

964. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI J. S. RAJU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact tht in the past the Department of Revenue had recommended to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports to remove photographic colour paper and graphic art films frm OGL; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, in 1985, Import Policy of an item is decided keeping in view various factors such as demand, indigenous production, quality and price differential etc. The suggestion received for removal of photographic colour paper and graphic art films from the list of imports under OGL were considered accordingly. Howefer, they were not found to be acceptable.

Export of Cotton Bales

965. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton that Government propose to export during the current year; and

(b) what quantity of cotton was exported during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Government have so far released quotas for the export of 13.85 lakh bales of cotton during the 1989-90 cotton season.